

**Amendments to the Claims**

**Listing of Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Withdrawn) An isolated polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:
  - a) a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4,
  - b) a polypeptide encoding an allelic or recombinant variant of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, wherein said variant
    - iii) has an insertion or deletion of 1-5 amino acids as compared with SEQ ID NO: 4; and/or
    - ii) has one or more amino acid substitutions as compared with SEQ ID NO: 4, and has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 at amino acids 1, 4, 6, 7, 10, 15, 19, 31-32, 35, 38, 41, 48, 52, 54, 57-58, 60-61, 64, 71, 75-78, 80, 82-84 and 90,
    - iii) and further wherein the variant has chemokine activity,
  - c) a biologically active fragment of a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, wherein said fragment has chemokine activity, and
  - d) an immunogenically active fragment of a polypeptide having an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, wherein said immunogenically active fragment is capable of generating an antibody that specifically binds to the peptide of SEQ. ID NO: 4.
2. (Withdrawn) An isolated polypeptide of claim 1, having the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4.

3. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:
- a) a polypeptide **consisting of the** ~~consisting essentially of an~~ amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4,
  - b) a polypeptide variant of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, wherein the variant shares at least 90 **97%** sequence identity with SEQ ID NO: 4, **and the variant** has chemokine activity,
  - c) a biologically active fragment of a polypeptide **that consists** ~~consisting essentially of~~ ~~an~~ **the** amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, wherein said fragment has chemokine activity, and
  - d) an immunogenic fragment of a polypeptide **that consists** ~~consisting essentially of~~ ~~an~~ **the** amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, **and** wherein the immunogenic fragment **is at least 5 amino acids in length** **and** is capable of generating an antibody that specifically binds to the peptide of SEQ. ID NO: 4, and the immunogenic fragment possesses biological activity.
4. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding ~~an~~ **the** polypeptide of SEQ ID NO: 4.
5. (Previously Amended) An isolated polynucleotide of claim 4, wherein said polynucleotide consists of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3.
6. (Original) A recombinant polynucleotide comprising a promoter sequence operably linked to a polynucleotide of claim 3.
7. (Original) A cell transformed with a recombinant polynucleotide of claim 6.
8. (Original) A transgenic organism comprising a recombinant polynucleotide of claim 6.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a polypeptide of ~~claim 1~~  
selected from the group consisting of:

- a) a polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4,
- b) a polypeptide variant of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, wherein the variant shares at least 97% sequence identity with SEQ ID NO: 4 has chemokine activity,
- c) a biologically active fragment of a polypeptide that consists essentially of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, wherein said fragment has chemokine activity, and
- d) an immunogenic fragment of a polypeptide that consists essentially of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, wherein the immunogenic fragment is at least 5 amino acids in length and is capable of generating an antibody that specifically binds to the peptide of SEQ. ID NO: 4, and the immunogenic fragment possesses biological activity,

the method comprising:

- a) culturing a cell under conditions suitable for expression of the polypeptide, wherein said cell is transformed with a recombinant polynucleotide, and said recombinant polynucleotide comprises a promoter sequence operably linked to a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide of claim 1, and
  - b) recovering the polypeptide so expressed.
10. (Currently Amended) A method of claim 9, wherein the polypeptide ~~comprises~~  
consists of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4.

11. (Withdrawn) An isolated antibody which specifically binds to a polypeptide of claim 1.
12. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of:
  - a) a polynucleotide ~~comprising a~~ **consisting of the** polynucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3,
  - b) a polynucleotide sequence variant of SEQ ID NO: 3, wherein said variant encodes an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4,
  - ~~{{e}}~~ **c**) a polynucleotide having a sequence fully complementary along its length to ~~{{a}}~~ **the** polynucleotide of a),
  - ~~{{d}}~~ **d**) a polynucleotide having a sequence fully complementary along its length to ~~{{a}}~~ **the** polynucleotide of b) and
  - ~~{{e}}~~ **e**) an RNA equivalent of a)-d).
13. (Previously Amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising at least 60 contiguous nucleotides of a polynucleotide of SEQ ID NO: 3.
14. (Withdrawn) A method for detecting a target polynucleotide in a sample, said target polynucleotide having a sequence of a polynucleotide of claim 12, the method comprising:
  - a) hybridizing the sample with a probe comprising at least 20 contiguous nucleotides comprising a sequence complementary to said target polynucleotide in the sample, and which probe specifically hybridizes to said target polynucleotide, under conditions whereby a hybridization complex is formed between said probe and said target polynucleotide or fragments thereof, and

- b) detecting the presence or absence of said hybridization complex, and, optionally if present, the amount thereof.
15. (Withdrawn) A method of claim 14, wherein the probe comprises at least 60 contiguous nucleotides.
16. (Withdrawn) A method for detecting a target polynucleotide in a sample, said target polynucleotide having a sequence of a polynucleotide of claim 12, the method comprising:
- a) amplifying said target polynucleotide or fragment thereof using polymerase chain reaction amplification, and
  - b) detecting the presence or absence of said amplified target polynucleotide or fragment thereof, and, optionally, if present, the amount thereof.
17. (Withdrawn) A composition comprising a polypeptide of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.
18. (Withdrawn) A composition of claim 17, wherein the polypeptide has the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4.
19. (Canceled)
20. (Withdrawn) A method for screening a compound for effectiveness as an agonist of a polypeptide of claim 1, the method comprising:
- a) exposing a sample comprising a polypeptide of claim 1 to a compound, and
  - b) detecting agonist activity in the sample.
- 21.-22. (Canceled)

23. (Withdrawn) A method for screening a compound for effectiveness as an antagonist of a polypeptide of claim 1, the method comprising:

- a) exposing a sample comprising a polypeptide of claim 1 to a compound,  
and
- b) detecting antagonist activity in the sample.

24.-59. (Canceled)

60. (Canceled)

61. (Canceled)

62. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence having at least ~~90%~~ 97% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4 and possesses chemokine activity.

63. (Previously Presented) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 62, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide consisting essentially of SEQ ID NO: 4.

64. (Previously Presented) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 62, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide having one or more conservative amino acid substitutions.

65. (Currently Amended) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 62, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide that consists essentially of SEQ ID NO: 4 having an insertion or deletion consisting essentially of about 1 to 5 amino acids ~~compared with SEQ ID NO: 4.~~

66. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide variant of SEQ ID NO: 4, wherein the polypeptide variant has of one or more conservative amino acid ~~substitution~~ substitutions and possesses chemokine activity.